

ITEM NO. \_\_\_\_\_

MTG. DATE \_\_\_\_\_ August 14, 2018

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
AGENDA ITEM COMMENTARY**

**ITEM TITLE:** An ordinance authorizing the calling and holding of an election in the city of Lawton, State of Oklahoma, for the purpose of submitting to the registered qualified electors of said city the question of the approval or rejection of Ordinance No. 18-\_\_ of the city relating to the amendment of the existing 2016 Capital Improvement Sales Tax of the city and defining the amended purposes for such tax; providing for severability, declaring an emergency, and requiring the full text be published.

**INITIATOR:** Council Member Davis

**STAFF INFORMATION SOURCE:** City Manager and City Attorney

**BACKGROUND:** By a companion Ordinance, an amendment to the City's existing 2016 Sales Tax Ordinance adds to the purposes of the capital improvement projects to address the City's need to increase its opportunities to attract/expand industrial development and upgrade/provide increased protection of its information technology systems. At the same time, the City's need to address drought conditions has lessened since passage of the original Ordinance and improvements to recycle reuse water have become impractical due to high costs. Improvements to water resources in the original Ordinance are, therefore, proposed to be modified by focusing only on improvements to water resources existing on the effective date of the companion amending Ordinance, including water resources that have been developed under the first two years of the original Ordinance's purposes.

The amending Ordinance does not increase the rate of the sales tax and does not extend the time period set in the original Ordinance to collect the tax. There will be no increase in Lawton sales taxes. (Continued on next page)

**EXHIBITS:** Ordinance No. 18-\_\_\_\_\_  
Election Proclamation

**KEY ISSUES:** Increase Industrial Development Opportunities and Upgrade/Provide Increased Protection of Information Technology Systems

**FUNDING SOURCE:** General Fund – Election Expenses

**RECOMMENDED COUNCIL ACTION:** Approve Ordinance No. 15-\_\_\_\_\_, including the emergency clause, waive the reading of the Ordinance, and read the title only.

Enclosed for Council's consideration is the ordinance which would call an election on January 8, 2019, to place the question of the proposed amendment of the 2016 Sales Tax Ordinance before the electorate. This ordinance sets out the proposition to be placed upon the ballot. The amended purposes of the sales tax would be used to provide funds for (1) improvements to existing water resources (but not new and alternate water resources), (2) infrastructure improvements in furtherance of industrial development and (3) improvements to information technology systems, along with the remaining purposes specified in the original Ordinance. For the purpose of informing the public, the full text of the ordinance will be published in the Lawton Constitution.